BUTLER, Nicholas Murray (President - Columbia University) January - March 1919 (076)

PEACE THROUGH VICTORY

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

DIVISION OF
INTERCOURSE AND EDUCATION

407 WEST 117TH STREET
SUB-STATION 84, NEW YORK CITY

January 15, 1919.

Sir Robert Alexander Falconer,
President University of Toronto,
Toronto, Canada.

My dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the American Academy of Arts and Letters to advise you that it is proposed formally to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Mr. James Russell Lowell, American man of letters and Minister to Great Britain from 1880 to 1885, which occurs on February 22, 1919, and to draw attention in emphatic manner to the unity and power of the literature of the English speaking peoples. The Academy hopes in this way to make an important contribution to the strengthening of the ties that bind the peoples of Great Britain, of Canada and of the United States so closely together.

I am sending you herewith the tentative program that has been arranged, and I have the honor to invite you to be present and to take part in these several functions as a guest of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

The Committee of Arrangements desire that no guest be put to any personal expense by reason of his acceptance of this invitation and therefore, through the secretary of the Com-

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mittee, arrangements will be made which it is hoped will be agreeable to you, to reimburse you for any cost that you may incur in making the trip to New York.

The Academy earnestly desires that the representation of Canadian men of letters may be as large and as impressive as possible and hopes that nothing will interfere with your acceptance of this very cordial invitation.

Asking the favor of an early reply,

I have the honor to be,

Faithfully yours,

William Lyon Phelps

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January 17th, 1919

President Nicholas Murray Butler,

407 West 117th Street,

New York.

Dear Mr. Butler:

I have to thank you for your great courtesy in asking me as a Canadian to be present at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of James Russell Lowell which is to be held by the American Committee of Arts and Letters from February 19th to 22nd and I appreciate the honour very highly. I feel that in view of the importance of the occasion I can do nothing else than accept your invitation, and I will endeavour to make my arrangements so as to be present at least for a portion of the celebrations, though I may not be able to be there throughout.

With an expression of my high personal regard and of the hope that the gathering may result in furthering the aims you have in view, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Private and Confidential.

January 20th, 1918

President Nicholas Murray Butler,

Columbia University.

My dear President:

Of the names that you mention I would suggest Principal Maurice Hutton of University College, Toronto, and Professor Stephen Leacock of McGill as being the two Canadian representatives who would be most likely to be acceptable to the audiences and be most representative of the Canadian literary life. Principal Hutton is a very distinguished Oxford man who has been in Canada for many years and is the editor of Hutton of "The Spectator". He is a charming speaker. Leacock you probably know quite well.

Of the others whom you are to invite Professor Wrong is now overseas and will not be back. I am also doubtful whether Canon Scott of Quebec will have returned from his duties as Chaplain overseas.

I should think that you have made a very good selection. As I wrote last week I hope to have the pleasure of being with you. Wishing you every success, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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January 27th, 1919

President Nicholas Murray Butler,
Columbia University,
New York.

My dear President Butler:

I rather think that it would be difficult for me to spend more than two days in New York at the time of the James Russell Lowell celebrations and I want if possible at latest to take the Saturday night train. What days would you advise me to set apart as being those on which it would be most important that I should be present ?

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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March 1st, 1919.

President Nicholas Murray Butler,

Columbia University,

New York City.

My dear President Butler:

I look back with the greatest of pleasure to my visit to New York in connection with the celebration of the centenary of James Russell Lowell's birth. I must congratulate you on the success of the functions and also on the splendid way in which the arrangements were made.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.